

FACTORS THAT AFFECT THE ENGLISH LITERACY OF THE STUDENTS

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Nowadays, the majority of people agree that English is the world's universal language. The majority of the world's population can interact and participate in the global community because of this language. It is generally acknowledged that English has emerged as the preferred language for many worldwide academic journals.

According to the Business English Indicator (BEI), the Philippines demonstrated proficient English business acumen with a BEI score of over 7.0. According to the English Competence Index (EPI), the Philippines' ranking of 20th out of 100 economies with non-native English speakers shows a drop in competence from its 14th-place ranking in 2018.

On the other hand, grade 6 pupils' performance on the National Achievement Test (NAT) in English has been progressively falling over the last three years, according to reports from DepEd that the Philippine educational system is failing. For the third consecutive year, the Grade 6 NAT's national average means percentage score (MPS) dropped, making it the lowest score ever recorded in the DepEd standardized test's history, according to the 2018 findings.

Additionally, the Professional Regulatory Commission (PRC) observed that fewer individuals are passing board exams in all professions, which may be because low academic attainment contributes to low English proficiency. Concerns have been expressed over the continuous decline in English proficiency in the Philippines and other non-English-speaking countries. According to the EF English Competence Index (EPI,

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2019), more than half of the countries surveyed saw a decline in English competence, indicating a slight decrease from 2018.

Nor (2022). Students' performance and language learning progress are also adversely affected by affective elements including anxiety related to learning English, low self-esteem, and lack of desire. Filipino students are especially impacted by the stress that comes with making errors and receiving criticism or a poor grade. Teachers should provide a supportive learning environment and employ techniques to lower anxiety and boost motivation in English classrooms to improve students' proficiency in the language. Students will be inspired to utilize English confidently and improve their language proficiency as a result.

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